

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 DOTE-00 EPA-01 COME-00
TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 H-01
SS-15 SP-02 FEA-01 ERDA-05 /064 R

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R 202256Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: DELAY IN JAPANESE AUTO EMISSIONS STANDARDS

REF: (A) EC BRUSSELS 10274, (B) TOKYO 16303,
(C) TOKYO 18505

1. MISSION REQUESTED TO INFORM LOERKE THAT WE HAVE
CONVEYED TO THE GOJ AT THEIR REQUEST THE POSITIONS OF THE
U.S. MANUFACTURERS ON THE QUESTION OF WHEN 1978 EMISSION
STANDARDS SHOULD BE APPLIED TO IMPORTED CARS. THE
CONSENSUS AMONG THE U.S. FIRMS IS THAT AS LONG A DELAY AS
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POSSIBLE IS TO BE DESIRED, AS MANUFACTURERS CONTEND THAT
THE TECHNOLOGY NEEDED TO MEET THE 1978 GOJ STANDARDS FOR
MEDIUM AND LARGE-SIZED ENGINES HAS NOT BEEN DEVELOPED,
AND THAT THERE IS NO WAY OF KNOWING WHEN IT WILL BE. THE
USG IS TAKING NO POSITION AS A GOVERNMENT RE DELAY OF THE
GOJ'S 1978 STANDARDS. TO TAKE SUCH A POSITION IN THE

ABSENCE OF INDICATIONS THAT THE GOJ'S POLICIES ARE INTENDED TO BE TRADE RESTRICTIVE WOULD BE INCONSISTENT WITH EPA'S POLICY OF DEALING DIRECTLY WITH MANUFACTURERS ON QUESTIONS OF THE CONTENT AND TIMING OF U.S. SAFETY AND EMISSIONS STANDARDS.

2. THE CONFUSION SURROUNDING THIS MATTER MAY HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY THE FACT THAT IN OUR REQUEST TO THE GOJ FOR CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THEIR STANDARDS SYSTEM WE ASKED THAT NORMALLY AT LEAST TWO YEARS' LEAD TIME BE GIVEN BETWEEN ANNOUNCEMENT AND APPLICATION OF NEW STANDARDS THAT AFFECT THE "BASIC STRUCTURE" OF THE AUTO. AS WE CONSIDER THE EMISSIONS CONTROL SYSTEM A "BASIC STRUCTURE",

IT WOULD FALL IN THE "AT LEAST TWO YEARS" CATEGORY, AND WE SO INFORMED THE GOJ.
KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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